

CLAIMS.

1- An electronic mail system comprising at least:

- an apparatus having a device to be connected to an electronic mail service, said apparatus comprising:

- a receptacle for receiving a removable data storage means,

- writing/reading means for reading and/or writing said storage means,

- connecting means for a connection to a mail service,

- mail managing means for managing mail,

which system further comprises:

- a removable data storage means.

2- A mail system as claimed in claim 1 comprising mail means for storing at least part of the contents of the mail in said removable data storage means.

3- A mail system as claimed in one of the claims 1 and 2 comprising archiving means for archiving the mail in a file in said removable data storage means.

4- A mail system as claimed in one of the claims 1 to 3, wherein said removable data storage means are constituted by an optical disc.

5- A mail system as claimed in one of the claims 1 to 4, wherein the mail server is accessible via a network such as the Internet.

6- An apparatus suitable for electronic mail and comprising:

- a device to be connected to an electronic mail service,

- a receptacle for receiving a removable data storage means,

- writing/reading means for reading and/or writing said storage means,

- connecting means for a connection to a mail service,

- mail managing means for managing mail.

7- A removable data storage means suitable for an apparatus as claimed in one of

claims 1 to 6 in which data relating to mail are stored.

8- A removable data storage means suitable for an apparatus as claimed in one of claims 1 to 6 in which data relating to the filing of mail are stored.

9- A removable data storage means suitable for an apparatus as claimed in one of claims 1 to 5 in which data relating to mail and to the filing mail are stored.

5 10- A removable data storage means as claimed in one of the claims 7 and 8, comprising a file for configuring the apparatus for managing the mail.

11- An apparatus suitable for a system as claimed in one of the claims 1 to 5 and for a removable data storage means as claimed in claim 9, comprising configuring means for configuring said apparatus for mail managing by launching said configuring file.

10 12- A mail system as claimed in one of the claims 1 to 5, wherein mail managing means for managing mail comprise display means for managing the mail.

13- A mail system as claimed in one of the claims 1 to 5, wherein mail managing means for managing mail comprises acoustic means for managing the mail.

14- A method of managing mail, which involves the following steps of:

- 15 - using a first apparatus which comprises:
- a receptacle for a removable data storage means,
 - writing/reading means for reading and/or writing said storage means,
 - connecting means for a connection to a mail service,
 - mail managing means for managing mail dealt with by the removable
- 20 data storage means,
- inserting a removable data storage means,
 - connecting to a mail server,
 - storing at least part of the contents of the mail in said removable storage means,
- 25 - removing said removable storage means for subsequent use with another or with the same apparatus.